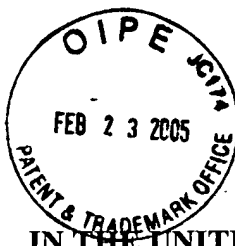


Patent



Docket No. 1232-4568

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Hideo TAKIGUCHI et al.
Serial No. : 09/400,154 **Art Unit** : 2612
Filed : September 21, 1999 **Examiner** : J. Misleh
For : IMAGE INPUT SYSTEM HAVING A PLURALITY OF
OPERATION MODES, ITS CONTROL METHOD, AND
STORAGE MEDIUM (As Amended)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP - RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please enter this Preliminary Amendment in the above-identified application before continued examination on the merits. A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) is being filed concurrently herewith. The accompanying RCE and the instant Amendment are being filed in response to the final Office Action mailed January 11, 2005.

Amendments to the Specification begin on Page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on Page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on Page 22 of this paper.